# A briefe re-

quest or declaracion presented vnto Madame the Duchesse of Parme. &c. Regente of the lowe Countrie of Flaunders: By the Lordes and Nobilitie of the same Countrie, with the Answere and Replie, and other writynges. Englished by W. F.

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# To the Reader.

BEfore we sette forthe the declaracion of the Nobilitie, wee haue thoughte good to expresse the copie of the letters of Madame the Ducheſſe of Parme, Regente, &c. ſent to the Gouernours and Counſaillers Prouinciall of the low Countrie of Flaunders. &c. Alſo the extracte of the letters of the Kyng our ſoueraine lorde, ſent to the Prouinces of the lowe coūtrie, the whiche haue been publiſhed alredie in ſome places, and are ment to be publiſhed throughout, whiche thyng hath geuen occaſion to the nobilitie, to preſent the ſaied declaracion, tēding to the hinderance of the execucion of the ſaied letters.

*Margaret by the grace of God Ducheſſe of Parme, and of Plaiſance. &c. Regente and Gouerneſſe.*

RIght dere and welbeloued, although that from the beginnyng of the raigne of the kyng, my Soueraigne Lorde, of the Countries on this ſide, aſwell by the rennyng and publiſhyng of the Placardes and ordinaũces of the Emperour Charles, my ſoueraigne lorde of moſte high memorie deceaſſed (whom God haue in his glorie) touchyng the ſtate of Religion, ratified and cõfirmed by his royall maieſtie, that the ſame whiche hath ſince been written you, eue at his laſt departure frõ theſaid Countries, for his kyngdome of Spain, you might alwaies knowe the good zeele and moſte holie affection of his ſaid maieſtie, to the conſeruacion of our old true faith and catholike Religion, and to the wedyng out of all ſectes and hereſies, in theſe ſaied Countries on this ſide: Notwithſtandyng this, as it hath pleaſed his ſaid maieſtie for certain occaſions, to renewe againe vnto vs his moſte holie intent, by his laſt letters, we haue thought

good by expresse charge thereof, to repre-
sent that whiche his maiestie hath writ-
ten vnto vs, whiche is thus in effecte:
That his Maiestie desiryng nothynge
more then the conseruacion of of the said
Religion, and of his good subiectes on
this side, in good tranquilitie, peace, vni-
tie, and concorde, and to preserue them
from the inconuenientes, whiche haue
been seen to chaunce in many places of
Christendome, for the chaungyng of the
sated Religion: His sated maiestie wil-
leth and intendeth, that the said Placar-
des and Ordinaunces, of his Imperiall
maiestie deceassed and his predecessors,
be kepte and obserued in all poinctes, as
it is also the intent of his sated maiestie,
to cause to bee well and straitly obserued
that which is decreed by the holie Coun-
cell of Trente, and the Prouinciall con-
gregacions, especially as touchyng the
reformacion of the Clergie, without re-
strayning the sated decrees in any thyng, to
the ende that punishing the heresies, the
maners also maie be corrected: Also that
all fauour and assistaunce bee geuen to
the Inquisitors, of the faithe and the exe-
cucion of their offices, and that the In-
quisi-

quisicion bée made by the saied Inquisitours, as it hath bèen made heretofore, and as appertetneth to them by diuine and humain right, the whiche thyng his Maiestie also expressely commaundeth, by his saied letters. And folowyng this writyng of his said maieste, and to obey therevnto, in a thyng so holy and fauourable, we could not omitte to write this vnto you, for to praie you, require you, and of the behalfe of his saied maiestie to commaunde you very expressely, to call and guide your selues herein, accordyng to the ordinaunce of his saied Maiestie, without gainstandyng it in any poynct or article, and that you cause thesame to be vnderstãded to the officers, and those of the lawe, of the principall Tounes of the Countrie and Countie of

to thende that thei maie order theim selues thereafter, without dissimulacion or mouine, vnder the penalties conteined in the same Placardes. And so moche the better to haue knowledge of it, that ye appoincte and assigne a Councellour of your Colledge (who notwithstandyng maie be chaunged from half yere to half yere, to thende that one alone be not al-

waies charged) and he to doe none other thyng, but to haue regarde to the saied Countrie of for the obseruacion of the decrees of the said holy Counsell, and to aduertise you alwaies of that whiche shalbee needefull to bee prouided for, according to the intente of his saied maiestie. And to the ende that wee maie alwaies knowe the state of the saied Religion, as is aforesaied, wee desire and commaunde you as aforesaied, that from three monethes to three monethes, ye write vnto vs the successe particularly, makyng your recourse to vs in matters of difficultee, or to them of the priue counsaill of his said maiestie, that report maie be made vnto vs, whereas likewise we will appointe some Councellor, who shall take the charge particularly, and shall conferre with you, and hym that shalbe sent by you. And to the ende that vppon all this afore saied, you might so moche the better se the expresse pleasure of his saied maiestie, wee haue caused to bee ioyned hereunto, the chief pointes of the letters and other writynges of his saied maiestie, concernyng this matter, to the ende to ouer and guide your sel-

ues,

pes, accordyng to the same and tenour of the same without defaulte. And thus moste deare and welbeloued, the Lorde haue you in his keppyng.

Written at Brussells the. xviij. daie of December. Anno Dñi. 1565. H. Vt vnderneth was written Margarita. And lower then that the Seale of Duerlope. Upon the backe was moreouer written, to our right deare and welbeloued, the President and people of the Counsell of the kyng in.

¶ *An extract of the last letters and writynges sent by the Kyng to Madame the Duchesse, with the last dispatche, concernyng the state of Religion.*

FIrst of all, as concernyng the Placardes and Ordinaunces aswel old as newe, touchyng the said state of Religion, that his Maiestie vnderstandyng the estate wherein the affaires of Religion nowe stand on this side, it is not conuenient to make, as touchyng the saied Placardes and Ordinaunces any chaunge, but that the saied Placardes of the Emperours Maiestie deceassed, and those of his saied Maiestie be also executed. And his Maie-

ſie hath perceiued the cauſe of the euill which hath chaunced, and of that it is ſo augmented & gone ſo farre, to haue been by the negligence, ſlouthfulneſſe, and diſſimulacion of the Iudges. And that if there be any Iudges, whiche dare not or will not execute them, for feare of any tumult, then let his Maieſtie thereof haue knowledge, to the ende that he maie prouide other of ſtouter harte & better zeale, to the execucion thereof, wherof there can be no default in thoſe ſaied Countries, ſeyng there be ſo many Catholikes, and men deſirous to ſerue God and his Maieſtie, and that doyng this, and executing theſaied Placardes, it is to be hoped that by that meanes, the hurt whiche is doen maie be the better and ſoner remedied.

For the ſeconde, as concernyng that whiche toucheth the Inquiſitours of the faithe, his Maieſtie chargeth her highneſſe, to helpe that theſaied Inquiſitours bee fauoured in that, which toucheth the execucion and adminiſtracion of their charge, in aſmoche as is conuenient for the profite and ſuſtentacion of the Religion, beyng thintent of his Maieſtie, that theſaied Inquiſicion be made by theſaid

In-

ynquiſitours, as it hath bẽn vntill this tyme, and as to thẽ belongeth by diuine and humaine right, and that this is no newe thyng, ſeyng that it hath bẽn alwaies doen ſo in the tyme of the Emperours Maieſtie deceaſſed, and of his maieſtie alſo. The inconuenientes whiche are to bee feared, beyng moche more apparaunt, more nigh, and greater, when there is not prouiſion made for the ſaied ynquiſitors, of that whiche apperteineth to their office, and that thei are not aſſiſted. And becauſe her highnes doeth vnderſtande what this importeth, his Maieſtie chargeth her as moche as ſhe maie to doe whatſoeuer ſhalbe neceſſary therunto, and that ſhe doe not conſente, that any other thing be intreated of, her highneſſe knowyng how moche his Maieſtie hath the harte, deſire, and contented that it ſhall thus bee.

For the third, his Maieſtie commaundeth her highnes, that ſeyng that the holie Counſell of Trent was alredy publiſhed, that there reſted nothyng but that whiche toucheth the execution, whiche belongeth to the Biſhops, her highneſſe ſhould cauſe them to make all ſpede and

aſſiſtance poſſible, to thende that ſhe enforce her ſelf as behoueth. Alſo that the ſame be executed, whiche the ſaid Counſell of Trente hath decreed, as concerning the reformacion of the life and maners of the ſpiritualtie, his maieſtie charging as well her highneſſe, as the officers of his ſaied Maieſtie, to geue all the fauour and encouraging that ſhould be needefull, and that if in caſe it ſhould bee requiſite, that on the behalf of his Maieſtie, ſhe ſhould cauſe it to bee diſpatched quickly, eſpecially where the people of the Churche, will not obeye to the reformacion made by the Biſhops, conformable to the decree of the ſaied Counſell of Trente.

And for conclucion, ſithe that whiche his Maieſtie writeth to her highneſſe, as is aforſaied, is that whiche belongeth to the profite of the Religion & of the countrie on this ſide, whiche were nothynge woorthe without the ſame, and that this is the waie for to keepe them in Juſtice, peace, and tranquilitie. And becauſe her highnes ſeeth what it importeth, his maieſtie requireth her againe to folowe the waie, whereby that whiche is aforeſaied,

maye

niale be brought to effect, & that it shalbe the thing, wherby his Maiestie maie receiue moche contentacion, aswell of her highnesse, as of the Lordes beyng vnder her, to whom her highnesse should geue in charge thesame, to the ende that thei employe themselues as his Maiestie trusteth that thei will not faile, knowyng the contentment that thei shal doe vnto him, besides that thei shal fulfill the duetie of soche personages as thei be, and acordyng to the obligacion that thei haue to the seruice of God, and of his maiestie and to the vntuersall profit of the countrey on this side, and also of theim selues perticularly.

¶ *The President and Councell of the Kynges maiestie of Hollande, Zelande, and Friestande.*

NOble, worthie, and discrete, and also good frendes, we haue receiued certaine letters of the Duches, Regent of the Kynges Maiestie in these lowe countries, with expresse commission and commaundement vnto your honors. For to certifie how his maiestie, nothing in the world more doeth require then the conseruacion of the Catholike religion, and his good subiectes of these coun-

countries in good peace, rest, quietnesse and vnion to maintaine, and the same to kepe frō all inconueniences, the whiche in many places of Christendome, by the chaungyng of religion, be chaunsed and happened: Doeth will you to vnderstāde that the Proclamacions and ordinaūces of the late Imperiall maiestie, made vpō poinctes of religion to be kept, and in all poinctes to be mainteined and executed, as also the minde of his maiestie is well and straightly to maintain that, whiche by the holy & generall Councell of Trēt by the Prouinciall synodes hath been ordeined and statuted, and in especiall as touchyng the reformacion of the Spiritualtie, without any thyng againste the same, to doe that in correcyng of the heresies, euill maners, by the same maie be amended and punished: Therefore his maiestie doeth will that the Inquisitors of the faithe, in the executyng and exercisyng of their office, shall haue all the helpe and assistance that you are able to shewe or do vnto them: and that the Inquisicīō by the same Inquisitors be doen in like sort, as it hath been vnto this present tyme, accordyng as it appertein th

vnto

vnto them, by Spirituall and Temporal lawes, the whyche his Maiestie expresse-ly hath commaunded, and in thesame to his Maiestie, in so holy & good a matter to be obedient, we could no lesse do, then to write these presentes, and in thesame to require, and in the name of his Maie-stie to commaũde very earnestly, that in these you will dooe, accordyng vnto the will & ordinaunces of ts maiestie, with-out dooyng, or suffering to be doen against thesame in any poincte, vpon paine and penaltie of the Placarde and ordinance comprehended, like as by vs hath bẽn in the departyng of his maiestie out of this lowe Countree, by his maiestie at large hath bẽn writte. You shall further kepe and obserue the laste Proclamation, pu-blished the. 29. daie of Marche afore Ea-ster. Anno. 1563. touching the Midwifes with alse that that hath been cõmaũded you by our letters missiues, at ỹ sending of thesame proclamation, as to kepe and take good regard vpon al suche as do ab-sent themselues frõ the churche, not hea-ring Masse vpon the Sondaie & holy day in that his Maiesties letters, the. 29. daie of Marche Anno. 1563. and ours the 11 of

Aprill

Aprill. An 1564. after Easter, & vnto vs. Certified that daily more and more, vpō the stretes, wagons, boates, and shippes, and other places, dishonest & vnreuerent songes be vsed against the holie Sacramentes of the Altar, Baptisme, and others: We charge & ordein your honors, thesame cōming vnto your knowledge, with all comely maner, thesame to let & hinder, and those to apprehend that shall syng any suche Songes, contrary to the christen faith, vnto the tenour of his maiesties Proclamacion aforesaied, and to the intent that you, and also all the subiectes, the better ordein your selues, vnto the good pleasure and will of his maiesties Proclamacion: you shall hencefoorthe take better regarde, that the Proclamacion vpon the poinctes of Religiō namely the Proclamacion of the yere of our Lorde. 1556. euery halfe yere beeremued and published, to thende that suche as bee enclined to any newe learnyng and sectes, by the penaltie in the Proclamaciō conteined, might be retired.

Noble worthie, discrete, & in especiall good frendes, our lorde God be with you: Witte at Hage the 8 of January. 1565.

Stilo curi.

*The Propoſicion made by Mounſire de Bredo-rode, to Madame the Ducheſſe, before he preſented the declaracion.*

MAdame, the gentlemen aſſem-bled in this toune, and others of like qualitie in compitente nõber, who for certain reſpec-tes, are not here preſent, haue ſtaied for the ſeruice of the kyng, and the publike weale of this lowe Countrie, to preſent into your highneſſe with all humilitie, this declaracion, vpon the whiche it ſhal pleaſe you to geue ſoche ord'er, as ſhalbe thought conuenient, humbly beſechyng your highneſſe, to take it in good parte. And further Madam, we are aduertiſed to haue been charged before your high-neſſe, before the lordes of the Counceil, and others, that this our deliberacion, hath chiefly been made for to raiſe vp tu-multes, diſordres & ſeditions, and, whiche is more abhominable, that haue charged vs that we would chaunge our Prince, kuyng practiſes, leagues, and conſpira-cies, with Princes & Capitaines ſtraun-gers, aſwell Frenchemen, Almaines, as others, whiche thyng we neuer thought vpon, and is altogether contrary to our

loyaltie,

loyaltie, and to that whiche your highnes shall finde by this declaracion: beseechyng neuertheleſſe your highneſſe, to name and discouer vnto vs, theim that haue so vniustly blamed so noble and honourable a company.

Moreouer Madame, the Lordes here present haue vnderstandyng, that there is some emongest them, who particularly are accused and charged, to haue taken in hande and gone about, to bryng to effecte the forsaied wicked enterprise, aswell with Frenchmen, as other straungers, whereat we feele our selues greatly greued. And therefore humbly beseech your highneſſe, to graunte vs so moche goodneſſe and fauor, as to name the accusars, and accused, to the ende that the wronge and mischief beyng discouered, your highneſſe maie make brief and manifest Justice, and by that meanes suppresse the euilles and slaunders, whiche might come vpon it, beyng well assured that your highnes will neuer suffer, that soche a noble and honourable company, should remaine charged, with so greate infamies and wicked actes.

The

MAdame, it is well enough knowē
that the dispositiō of the Christēdome
hath alwaies been greatlie de-
sirous (as it is yet at this presente) the
great tranquillitie of the people of this lowe
Countrie, towardes their lordes and na-
turall Princes, wherein the nobilitie hath
alwaies kept the chiefe rāke, as the same
whiche hath never spared neither bodie
nor goodes, for the conservacion and in-
crease of the greatnesse of their Lordes: By the
whiche late the moste humble sutters of
his maiestie hadde alwaies continue from
good to better, so that bothe daie & night
he kepe our selues redie, for to doe hym
moste humble service, bothe with our bo-
dies and goodes: and seyng in what ease
his affaires are at this presente, have
thought beste to charge our selues with
some ill will, then to keepe secrete from
our bigbonesse, thinges whiche might
hereafter tourne to the prejudice of his
maiestie, and for bothe altogether trou-
ble the rest and tranquilitie of this coun-
trie. Trusting that therefore shall appere

in tyme, that emongeste all the seruices
which we might haue doen, or hereafter
maie do to hys maiestie, this fame ought
to be accompted emongest the moste no-
table, and to best purpose, whare by we
assuredly perswade ourselues, that your
highnes can not take it but in very good
part. Although then, Madame, that we
do not but that all that, which his
maiestie hath herestofore, and also nowe
presently of us his doeth constitute, tou-
chyng the Inquisition and straite obser-
uation of the placardes for the state of
religion, hath had lome foundacion and
iuste title, to wit, to countinue that which
the Emperor Charles, of moste high me-
morie deceased, had established for a good
intente. Neuertheless considerying that
the difference of one tyme from an other
bryngeth immediatly with it diuersities
of remedies, and that now of late within
these fewe yeres the fated placardes, not-
withstandyng that they were not executed
with all rigour, haue neuertheless
given occasiõ to many grieuous incõue-
nieures. Certainly the last resolucion of
his maiestie, by the whiche he forbad not
only that the said Placardes should not

mitigated, but also plainly commaun-
ded, that the Inquision should bee obser-
ued and the placardes executed with all
rigour, doeth geue vs sufficient iuste oc-
casion to feare, that thereby not onely the
saied inconueniences should greatly en-
creese, but also that in thende should fo-
lowe a commotion and generall sedicio,
tendyng to the miserable ruine of the
whole countrie, accordyng as the mani-
fest tokens of the alteracion of the people
(whiche nowe appeareth on euery side)
doeth geue vs playnly to vnderstande.

Wherfore, knowyng the euidencie &
great smell of the daunger, whiche doeth
threaten vs, haue hitherto hoped y either
by the leuies or by the estates of the coun-
trie, declaracion should be made in conue-
nient time vnto your highnes, to thende
to remedie it, by taking awaie the cause
& originall of the euill: but since hauyng
seen y thei haue not executed it for some
respect to vs vnknowen, and that in the
meane while the euill encreaseth daily,
in somoche y the danger of sedicion & ge-
nerall rebellio is euen at hand, we haue
thought it good, folowyng y othe of fidelli-
tie & homage together, with y good will

we beare to his maiestie and the Counsell, not to tary any longer, but rather to set forthe our selues with the leste, to do the duetie required, and so muche the more boldly, because wee haue more occasion to trust that his maiestie will take our abuertisement in very good part, seyng that the matter toucheth vs nerer, then it doeth any other, seyng that wee are in more daunger of the inconueniences and calamities, whiche customably come of suche like actiones, hauing for the moste part our houses and goodes scituate in the fieldes, and readie to be a pray to euery man. Moreouer seyng also generally, that notwithstanding the rigour of the saied placardes, as his maiestie hath expressly commaunded to proceede, there shall not bee emongest vs any man, no nor in the whole countrie on this syde, of what estate or condicio soeuer he be, that shall not bee founde guiltie of the consultation and forfeiture of his bodie and goodes, and subiecte to the reproche of the false enemie, who to haue parte of the confiscation, will accuse hym vnder colour of the placardes, not hauyng any other hoping left hym for refuge, but onely the

dissimu-

dissimulacion of the matter, into whose mercie his liues goodes, are wholly put, In consideracion whereof, wee haue in moche the more occasion, moste humbly to beseche your highnes (as in deede we beseche you by this present requeste) for to geue good order herein. And (for the importaunce of the matter) to sende as spedely as maie bee, an expresse and fitte Iramme to his maiestie to aduertise hym, and beseche hym moste humbly on our behalfe, that it would please hym to prouide as well for the tyme present, as the tyme to come. And forasmoche as the same can not be doen, suffryng the saied plaunedes to remaine in their force, seeyng that thereof dependeth the suyng, and eschuyng all of the saied inconueniences that it would please hym to abolisshe the same, the whiche shalbe needefull for the withstandyng of the totall ruine and losse of all his countries on this side.

And to thende that his maiestie haue occasion to thinke that wee (whiche pretende nothyng but to doe hym moste humble obedience) would take in hande to beside hym, or make hym a Laine at our pleasure (as wee doubte not but our

*The Answere made to the Counsell of*
*Essex, by Maydwell vpon the*
*declaration going before.*

maye

may serue to dispose and encline his said Maiestie, to condiscende to the requeste of the saied suppliantes, who ought not to doubt, but that all thynges shalbe wayghed and reasonable to his native and accustomed benignitie: her highnes hauyng alredy (before the comming of the saied suppliantes) by the assistance and aduise of the gouernours of the Prouinces, knightes of the Order, and those of the Councell, beyng vnder her) gone about to conceiue and addresse a moderacion of the said Placardes, touchyng the state of Religion, for to presente it vnto his saied maiestie. The which moderacion her highnes hopeth should be found soche, that it should geue to euery one reasonable contentment. And seing that thauctoritie of her highnes, as the suppliantes maie well consider and vnderstand, doeth not extende so farre, as to be able to stay the Inquisicion, and the Placardes as they demaunde, and that it behoueth not to leane the auctoritie, as take away religion without lawe, her highnesse trusteth that the suppliantes will content them selues with this, that she sende (to the ende aforsaid) towardes the

kynges

kynges maiestie, and in the meane tyme whilest she waiteth for his answere, her highnes will geue order, that aswell by the Inquisitors (whereof there haue been vntill nowe) that by the officers whiche haue the ouersight, thynges be executed discretly, and modestly, as appertayneth to their charges, in soche sorte that there be no occasion geuen of complainte, her highnes trustyng also, that the supplyantes will order themselues after soche fashion, that it shall not be needefull to vse it otherwise. And it is to bee hoped that by the good meanes, whiche her hignes shall make to his maiestie, he shalbe content to discharge the other of the Inquisition where she is, accordyng as it maye be vnderstanded, that it is now declared vpon the requeste of the chief tounes of Brabant, that they shall not be charged with it. And her highnes will labour so moche the more freely towardes his maiestie, to the ende and effect aforesaied, in that she is assured that the supplyauntes be minde and intende determinatly, to hyng in no newe thyng, contrary to the auncient religion, obserued in the countre on this side, but to mainteine it and

obserue it with all their power.

Made by her highnes at Wyndsor, the 6. daie of Aprill. 1565. before Calbee.

¶ *The Replie vpon the Answere goyng before made the 8. daie of Aprill.*

MAdame, hauyng seen the answer, which it hath pleased your highnes to geue vs, we will not faile first of all to thancke most humbly your highnesse, for the briefe expedition thereof, especially of the satisfaction that your highnesse hath had of this our allegable, the whiche was made for none other occasion, but for the good seruice of the kinges maiestie, & the tranquillitie of his countrie. And for the better contentment, and rest of the same Countree, wee haue greatly desired that the saied answere of your highnesse, had been made more ample and plainer. Neuertheless, sithe that your highnes hath not the authoritie that we desired, as wee vnderstande, whereof we are very sory, wee truste according to the hope and assurance that your highnesse hath geuen vs, that there shalbee suche order made, as well towardes the Magistrates, as the Inquisitors, enioynyng them to liue themselues as

all

all sutes proceadyng of the Inquisition, Ordinaunces, or placardes, as well old, as newe, touchyng the state of Religion, vntill the kynges Maiestie haue otherwise decreed. Of our parte, Madame, sith hauyng no desire nothyng but to folowe all that which the by his maiestie, with the aduis and consent of the Estates generall assembled shalbe decreed, for the maintenyng of the auncient Religion, wee trust to giue our selues in soche sort, that your highnesse shall haue no occasion of mislikyng. And if any man cõmit any hainous & seditious acte, that he be by your highnes, and them of the Counsell of Estate, appointed soche punishment, as the desert of the deede shall require. Prouidyng againe that if any inconuenience doe rise, by fault of not hauyng found good order, that wee haue fulfilled our duetie, moste humbly beseechyng your highnes to hold this our duetie as agreable and bounden, receiuyng vs for the seruice of his Maiestie. Offring our selues to remain moste humble and obediente seruitours to your highnesse: and to dye at his feete for his seruice, as fast as it shall please your highnes to cõ-

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*Requestes of the fower membres of Flanders, and the Cities, and Cassellries reynyng therevnto vpon the effecte of Inquisicion.*

Beseechyng and requirynge in all humilitie, the fower membres of your countree and Countesse of Flanders, as well for them as for all the Cities, Cassellries in generall of all the Inhabiters, and Subiectes of the same Countrees. How that not long sithens, thei had presented your Maiestie a supplicacion, for that it might please your highnes, to permitte the supplyantes, to enioy in the afore written qualitie, their old libertie and freedome, for the preservacion of them, and to forbidde the Inquisitours, and other spirituall persones, for the bryngyng in of any newe matters, through the practise of Inquisicion, and that vpon the afore written supplicacion, as it nothyng had been ordeined. For that your maiestie firste and formoste require in perticular, to understande the meanyng of the supplyantes, accordyng to supplicacions hereunto annexed, so is it that thei for the satisfaccio, thei nowe addressyng them selues vnto

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your Maiestie, as to the same perteyned by obligacion of their othe, and to the conseruacion and welfare, of your afore written lowe Countrees: as also newly thervnto moued, through the newe practise and subtelte of my Lorde the Bishoppe of Bridgis, and of maister Peter Titelman, them namyng Inquisitours, as it appereth by the copie of the articles by them, shewyng herevnto annered. Therefore requiryng very humbly, that you takyng regarde, vpon the reasons hereby rehearsed at large, by the afore saied supplicacion, and in especiall that your patrimoniall landes, their neighbours not brought to bondage or subiection, of the aforesaied Inquisicion, by libertie of the whiche, your other patrimoniall Countrees, the Inhabitours of the afore written, your countree of Flanders, should be occasioned to depart, and to leaue their Countree and landes, for the anoydyng of suche bondage, veracio and subiection, as alredy hath been found by experience. It maie please your Maiestie, to let the supplyantes enioy peaceably the aforesaied, their rightes, fredomes, customes, and vsaunces, and for

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as muche as the exercise of the aforsaid Inquisition, is directly contrary to al the aforesaied rightes, fredome, customes, and vsances of the saied Suppliantes: the same tendyng to vtter ruyne, and wholy to frustrate and make voide, in asmuche as it toucheth the temporall persones. Forbiddyng furthermore all Spirituall Iustices, to take any knowlege of matters belongyng vnto the knowledge of temporall iurisdiction, but the same to pertie onely to the iudgement of the Temporal Iudges. And not to consent that the Inhabiters of your aforesaid written countries of Flanders, more straightly to be bound to any inquisitor rigour of Ordinaunces and Proclamacions, made touchyng Religio, then other their loyning countries and Prouinces, the aforesaied declaracions your maiestie well assuring that thei of your countrie of Flanders, and the Commons in generall, hauyng no other meanyng or desire, then them selues to employe, & to the countrie nation, and maintenyng of the old catholike faithe, & to al the seruice of your maiestie, as true and obediente subiectes of the same. anno. 1565. April after Easter.

FINIS.